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Amendments to and Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): A Behind The Ear (BTE) Implantable Cochlear Stimulation (ICS) system, comprising:

a BTE device, wherein the BTE device includes a speech processor;

an In The Ear (ITE) microphone, wherein the ITE microphone includes a soundport on one end and multiple terminals on the other;

means for electrically connecting the terminal end of the ITE microphone to the speech processor of the BTE device; and

a bendable, formable stalk having a first end attached to the BTE device and a second end adapted to be attached to the terminal end of the ITE microphone means for securing the ITE microphone in the ear, wherein the means for securing stalk includes at least one stiffening member, and wherein the stalk is adapted to position the ITE microphone within the concha of a user's ear so that the soundport of the ITE microphone points axially away from a longitudinal axis of the stalk.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The system of Claim 8 wherein the ITE microphone is positioned secured in the ear so that when the earpiece of a communications handset is held to the ear, the ~~[[port]]~~ soundport is open to the volume between the earpiece and the ear.

Claim 10 (original): The system of Claim 9 wherein the communications handset is a telephone handset.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): The system of ~~Claim 11~~ Claim 8 wherein the stalk is adapted ~~to be bendable and to retain a~~ a ~~[[the]]~~ bend once bent, ~~thereby whereby a user may~~

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adjust adjusting the position of the microphone by bending the stalk.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system of ~~Claim 14~~ Claim 8 wherein the stalk is adapted to connect the ITE microphone to an earhook, and wherein the earhook is removably attachable to the BTE ICS system.

Claim 14 (original): The system of Claim 13 wherein the earhook is removably attachable to a coaxial connector attached to the case of the BTE ICS system.

Claims 15-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (new): The system of Claim 8 wherein the means for electrically connecting the terminal end of the ITE microphone to the speech processor comprises a plurality of wound wires.

Claim 22 (new): The system of Claim 21 wherein the plurality of wound wires combine to form the at least one stiffening member of the bendable, formable stalk.

Claim 23 (new): The system of Claim 22 further including shrink tubing applied over the plurality of wound wires.

Claim 24 (new): An Implantable Cochlear Stimulation (ICS) system comprising:
a Behind-The-Ear (BTE) speech processor, the BTE speech processor having an earhook adapted to allow the BTE speech processor to be worn behind the ear of a user; and
a microphone assembly detachably connected to the BTE speech processor, comprising

a microphone, and
a bendable, formable stalk,
wherein the microphone has a soundport and a plurality of

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terminals, and is adapted to be electrically connected to the BTE speech processor using a plurality of conductors attached to the plurality of terminals, and wherein at least one of the plurality of conductors is connected to the BTE speech processor through a mating connector, and

wherein the bendable, formable stalk has a first end attached to the earhook and a second end attached to the microphone, and wherein the microphone is positioned on the second end of the stalk so as to be adapted to reside within a concha of a user's ear with the soundport directed in a direction set by the user when the BTE unit is worn on the user's ear.

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